

OUR NELSON

Issue 15 • 22 February 2017

Keep up to date with the latest news from Nelson City Council

Community Investment Fund 2017/18 opens

On 24 February, the Nelson City Council Community Investment Fund opens for applications. The Community Investment Fund has actively supported activities and projects that take place across Nelson making it an even better place.

Broadly, the Fund contributes to activities focused on wellbeing, youth, children and families, older adults, diversity and aspects of learning and development that strengthen our communities making our city more resilient.

These projects are often run and funded in partnership with other funders and agencies. The Community Investment Fund plays an important role in contributing to the activities and projects that make our city such a great place to be for all.

The first funding round which is for activities and projects over \$2,500, opens on 24 February and closes on 10 April; further information is available on our website.

Later in July, the Community Investment Fund grants round for smaller amounts under \$2500 opens. More information about this round and other Council funding available for community and neighbourhood building activities can be found on the funding page on our website.

nelson.govt.nz

Search = community fund



The doors are open – come behind the scenes at Port Nelson

Community Open Day, Sunday 5 March, from 10am–4pm.

Every three years, the community is given the chance to take a peek at the inner workings of Port Nelson – the largest fishing port in Australasia. This year, there are many new things to see so don't miss out! Bring the entire family as there's something for all ages.

People can discover the new 13,000m² logistics facility, take a trip on guided bus tours, see the brand new Toia tugboat and check out the heavy equipment display by highly skilled staff. There will also be plenty of interactive games and prizes for the kids, and food trucks to buy lunch and snacks.

As the maritime gateway for the Nelson

Marlborough region that has welcomed visitors and commercial operators to the Top of the South Island for over 170 years, Port Nelson encourages people from across Nelson and as far as Blenheim and Motueka to make a special day trip for the triennial event.

Bring a gold coin to support the Port's charity Big Brothers Big Sisters. Rain or shine – please come along! Parking is available on Wildman Ave and through the entry on the corner of Wildman Ave and Low Street.

Port Nelson Ltd is jointly owned by the Nelson City Council and the Tasman District Council.

Keeping active this summer

A free programme of activities for over 65s has kicked off thanks to Nelson City Council and Age Concern Nelson Tasman.

The programme of activities, which runs through until the end of March, includes:

- Five sessions of **Tai Chi** for all levels, with professional instructors to guide and assist everyone.
- Three **Sing-A-Long in the Park** events – come along and join a local Nelson choir and sing along to well known songs. No previous experience required – just have a go and test out your vocal chords!
- **Half Marathon Challenge** – there's 6 weeks to complete 21km. Walk at a pace that suits you, meet new people and enjoy the Nelson outdoors.



- **Disc Golf** – this is played on a special course at Isel Park, using flying discs, or Frisbees, to go round a course. It's super easy to learn and a great activity for all ages. Three sessions are being held.
- **Heritage and Edible walks** – learn more about Isel Park, Miyazu Gardens and Orphanage Stream with these walks.

For further information, please call Age Concern on 03 544 7624, or email community@ageconcernnt.org.nz.



2 Knitters group offers garments

THE LONG ROAD FROM A BROKEN HEART

Jeremy Scott's 52,000km ride from London to Auckland... all because of a hole in his heart.



4 Jeremy Scott – Author talk at Elma Turner Library

NATURE'S HERO



This month's Nature's Hero is Philippa Eberlein.

Being a conservation volunteer isn't only about weed control and tree planting. Once a month Friends of the Maitai volunteer Philippa Eberlein heads out to four river sites in the Brook Stream and Maitai River, taking samples of the water for *Escherichia coli* (*E.coli*) testing.

Keeping an eye on the health of Nelson's rivers is an important job, collecting data that is used to track the water quality trends in two of our city's waterways.

"I started in 2014," says Philippa, "when NIWA ran a project training volunteers to collect water samples."

When the project was complete, Friends of the Maitai decided to continue with the monitoring. Philippa is a dedicated volunteer, heading out in almost all weathers to collect the valuable data which is then supplied to Nelson City Council. She is usually accompanied by two other Friends of the Maitai volunteers, Tom Taylor and Tom Kennedy.

Philippa's job is to collect samples of the water for *E. coli* testing. "I filter the water, put a sample on a petrifilm and leave in a sealed container to incubate overnight. After 24 hours I count the colonies. The petrifilm gel provides a growth media of nutrients and colour producing chemicals so the *E.coli* present as blue colonies."

The results are plotted on a chart, and any signs of a high reading reported immediately to Council's environmental scientists.

"Long term data is important to allow us to track changes in the river's health," says Philippa.

As she spends time on the river, Philippa says that she hopes her efforts will contribute towards an increase in the fish population.

"We all want a clean and healthy river. Planting and keeping it rubbish free helps, and there is a lot we can do to stop pollution getting in to the river from stormwater drains."

For more information about Nelson Nature, visit nelsonnature.nz.

Knitters group offers garments

The Library Knitters group are calling for community organisations who are interested in giving garments to families in need.

Originally set up to provide an opportunity for people to meet and create baby garments for Plunket Nelson Tasman, the group of 8-18 women meet each week and produce a wide range of woollen pieces including blankets, hats, slippers, booties, vests, cardigans and soft toys.

The knitters have so far created and donated 202 garments to Nelson Tasman Plunket. Blankets and

baby garments were also donated to a Nelson family who lost everything in a house fire.

As Plunket has enough garments at present, the group currently has the following items: 47 blankets, 34 hats, 47 pairs of booties, 12 pairs of slippers, 16 soft toys, 8 cardigans and 32 vests.

These are available to community organisations which have families in need that would benefit from hand-knitted garments. Ring Viv Rounce on 03 539 5507, email viv.rounce@ncc.govt.nz or pop into the Elma Turner Library to see Viv or Nicola Harwood.

Along with this, donations of wool would be gratefully received, as the Library Knitters can power through a mountain of wool!



Subsidised neutering available for menacing dogs

Nelson City Council is working with the Nelson SPCA to offer subsidised neutering and microchipping for menacing dogs.

The subsidy has been made available by the Department of Internal Affairs, as part of a national strategy to reduce the risk and harm of dog attacks.

Dogs can be classed as menacing if they are seen as, or are reported to be, posing a threat to people, stock, poultry, domestic animals or wildlife. There are also five breeds of dogs automatically classed as menacing – the Brazilian Fila, Dogo Argentino, Japanese Tosa, Perro de Presa Canario and the Pit Bull type.

Nelson City Council Dog Control Policy requires all dogs classified as menacing to be neutered.

"Council is proactive in encouraging owners of known menacing dogs to comply with regulations," says Group Manager Strategy and Environment Clare Barton. "We hope this programme will encourage owners of dogs that are not on our database to take advantage of the subsidy."

"Cost is one of the main barriers to owners of high risk dogs registering and neutering their pets. We're encouraging owners of dogs that fall in to the menacing category to take advantage of having their dog neutered at a

substantially reduced cost to prevent unwanted breeding. In the long term this campaign will help to reduce the number of menacing dogs in the community."

Eligible dogs will be neutered and microchipped at a nominated vet clinic at a cost of \$25.

Dog owners who wish to take advantage of this offer should contact the Nelson SPCA on 03 547 7171 to confirm eligibility of their dog for neutering and microchipping under the programme.

For more information visit nelson.govt.nz, search term = dog owner information.

nelson.govt.nz

Search = dog owner information

Changes to the South End of the Library

From 7-10 March, changes are being made to the Fiction section of Elma Turner Library. This is in response to your feedback on ways we can make it easier for you to find your favourite books and other items.

The popular displays (recently published items, recently returned items) and hard to find collections (Large Print, DVDs and CDs) will be moved closer to the centre of the Library.

As many authors now write in a number of different styles, and you often tell us you find it tricky to track down titles by your favourite authors, we are going to amalgamate our fiction into one collection, so that all the works of one author will be shelved together.

The Young Adult area is also moving to provide more space for this section.

There will still be quiet areas for reading and

laptop use and lots of areas for browsing. We have already installed a staff station so we can be more available to help you.

While the area is being re-arranged, from 7-10 March, it will not be open to the public.

Staff will be available to retrieve the items you want. Some items may be unreachable for a time, and for these we will provide free reserves.

There will be some disruption to our public access computers while they are being moved.

The public toilets in the Nelson City Council Customer Service Centre will be available for your use during the re-arrangement.

Paths and parks are for pedestrians and pedal power

Recently, Council has received numerous complaints about motorbikes or ATVs in reserves and shared paths.

Here is what you need to remember:

- Motorcycles of any sort are not permitted on shared paths, you must ride on the road at all times.
- Motorcycles and cars are not permitted on Council reserves as they can cause a great deal of damage to our green areas.
- Electric cycles are permitted on shared paths but the same rules apply as ordinary cycles and it is especially important to reduce speed as they can travel much faster than the pedal power version.

It is an offence to ride motorcycles on shared paths or reserves. If you see it happening, please contact Police in the first instance.

If you are zipping around the city on an electric bike here are a few tips to keep you and others safe:

- Where there is a cycle path, you may ride on the cycle path or on the road. Where there is no cycle path, you must ride on the road and keep as far left as you safely can.
- If you are cycling on a shared path, please reduce your speed and be courteous to pedestrians. Often pedestrians can't hear cyclists approaching, especially with electric bikes which can be very quiet. Call out politely or use a bell if you have one.



Weed control a priority

Protecting the rare plant communities that inhabit the Dun Mountain mineral belt is a high priority for Nelson Nature.

Over the next few months, Council contractors will be in the area controlling wilding conifers, gorse and Spanish heath – three key plant pests that have the potential to destroy the unique flora that occur in this nationally important site.

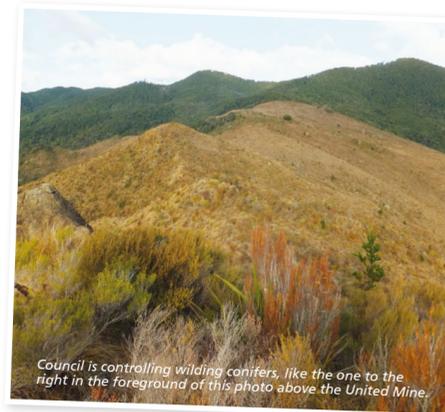
Contractors will be using chainsaws to control wilding conifers in the most densely infested parts of the mineral belt – around Mt Malita and above the Champion and United Mines in the Roding Water Reserve. Gorse and Spanish heath will be controlled by hand pulling and targeted spraying near Dun Saddle and Rocks Hut, where there are some isolated patches of infestations. The aim for the gorse and Spanish heath control is to eliminate these patches before the weeds get well established at these sites.

Also in the next few months, Council contractors will be targeting vine weeds and cotoneaster at multiple sites throughout the Maitai and Roding Water Reserves. These invasive weeds have the potential to smother or replace the native beech forest that occurs in the Water Reserves.

In the Maitai Water Reserve, the contractors

will be focusing their efforts on preventing any new growth of periwinkle, Old Man's Beard and Japanese honeysuckle. In the Roding Water Reserve, Old Man's Beard and cotoneaster will be particularly targeted.

Council is working to a long term plan to eliminate populations of these species from the Water Reserves. Successful control can only be achieved through a targeted effort over multiple years to prevent these weeds re-establishing.



Council is controlling wilding conifers, like the one in the foreground of this photo above the United Mine.

MEETINGS

The following meetings of the Nelson City Council have been scheduled.

Council meeting
9am 2 Mar

Community Services Committee
to follow Council meeting 2 Mar

Council meeting
9am 9 Mar

Governance Committee
to follow Council meeting 9 Mar

Nelson Regional Sewerage Business
Unit – Ruma Mārama
1pm 10 Mar

Regional Pest Management Joint
Committee – Tasman District Council
Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond
9.30am 13 Mar

Hearings Panel – Other – Ruma Mārama
8.30am 14 Mar

Council meeting
9am 23 Mar

Regional Transport Committee
1.30pm 27 Mar

Joint Committee of Tasman District
and Nelson City Councils
9.30am 28 Mar

Sports and Recreation Committee – Emano
East Reserve Revocation deliberations
1pm 28 Mar

Works and Infrastructure Committee
9am 30 Mar

Other Meetings

Nelson Youth Council
1pm 1 Mar

Nelson Youth Council
1pm 17 Mar

Notes:

1. Unless otherwise shown, the meetings will be held in the Council Chamber, Civic House, Trafalgar Street, Nelson.
2. A public forum is held during the initial period of the Committee/Council meeting. Anyone wishing to speak at this public forum is asked to give prior advice to an Administration Adviser on 546 0200.
3. Agendas will be available for perusal at the Customer Service Centre in Civic House, or at Nelson Public Libraries, two days prior to the meeting.
4. Agendas and minutes for Council meetings can be viewed on Council's website nelson.govt.nz.

nelson.govt.nz/meetings

Control of invasive vines on the Grampians Reserve

Environmental vine weeds such as Old Man's Beard, Climbing Asparagus and Banana Passionfruit Vine are easy to see at this time of year, with their displays of flowers and fruits.

These invasive vines, introduced as ornamental garden plants only a few decades ago, are threatening whole canopies of mature forest trees. If unchecked they are capable of destroying the amenity value of our recreational areas. Eradication is a major cost to our community.

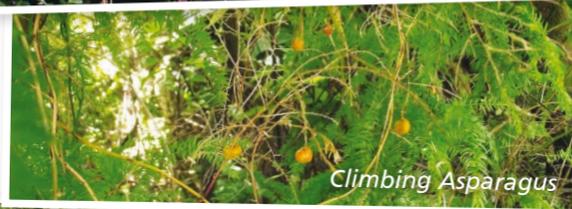
Nelson City Council, using the combined resources of the Parks and Reserves team and the Nelson Nature Team, are undertaking a weed control programme in the coming months to tackle these vine weeds on the Grampians Reserve, where they are a significant problem. This work will target the weeds in manageable blocks on both the city facing, and the Brook Valley, slopes of the Reserve.

These weeds are highly successful invaders. They produce thousands of viable seeds which germinate, mature and produce even more seeds in a short space of time. Seedlings are able to grow in the shade of existing trees which they then climb up to reach the light. Once in the tree canopy they spread widely – producing curtains of vines and smothering or strangling mature trees.

A co-ordinated, consistent approach will result in the most sustainable and effective control.



Banana Passionfruit



Climbing Asparagus



Old Man's Beard

You can help support the work Council is doing by eradicating vine weeds on private property. The Weedbusters website (weedbusters.co.nz) has information on how to deal with these and other weeds. For further advice contact Nelson City Council's Contract Supervisor Parks Haidi Spence, on 03 546 0220 or email haidi.spence@ncc.govt.nz.

Get involved with the Friends of the Grampians Planting Group

Following the control of weeds along the walking paths in the Grampians Reserve, there is an opportunity to help with planting in these areas. Planting will help improve amenity values, and limit the further spread of weeds.

If you are interested in being involved in group planting along the walking tracks, please contact susan.moore-lavo@ncc.govt.nz for further information.

weedbusters.co.nz

Jeremy Scott – author talk at Elma Turner Library

Jeremy wasn't only born with a huge hole in his heart, but with adventure and a love of the great outdoors pulsing through his veins.

His insatiable hunger to explore more of the world inspired Jeremy to move to London which he used as a base to travel extensively throughout Africa, Asia, Europe and South America.

Despite seeing more of the world than most people could ever dream of, he felt there was still more to explore and on the 5th October 2011, he set off for what turned out to be a two and a half year 51,916km solo bike ride around the globe. He raised over \$30,000 for Heart Foundations.

At the completion of that life changing journey, Jeremy wrote his first book "The Long Road From A Broken Heart" and is now dedicating his life to inspire others.

The presentation is a personal story about his journey from lifesaving open heart surgery as a child; through to being an adult who spent over two and a half years cycling 52,000km around the planet.



Event details

Where: Elma Turner Library

When: Saturday 4 March, 1pm

Cost: \$2 koha

Book: At the library or library@ncc.govt.nz

WHAT'S ON... at a Council venue near you



Founders Heritage Park

Sing-a-long in the Park – Summer Activity Programme for Seniors: 23 February, 10 and 21 March, 10–11am

Jazz on the Village Green: Sundays, 1.30–4.00pm, until March 12

Trafalgar Park

NZ National Pipe Band Championships: 10–11 March, 9am–6pm

Saxton Field Sports Complex

Obstacle Course: 25 February, 8.30–10am

Tahunanui Reserve Youth Park

Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon: 12 March, 8.30am

Isel House and Park

The China Room – Ceramic Cultures in Stoke: Until April 29

Isel Twilight Market: Thursdays, 4.30pm–dark, until April 27

Dancing in the Park: 26 February, 10–11am

Tai Chi – Summer Activity Programme for Seniors: 14 February, 10–11am

Disc Golf – Summer Activity Programme for Seniors: 17 February, 6 and 30 March, 10–11.30am

Queen's Gardens

Summer Tango in the Queens Gardens: 11 March, 1–4pm

Nelson Public Libraries

Elma Turner Library

STEMwriters – a local writers group: Second Tuesday of each month, 2pm

Small Time at the Children's Library: Stories and songs for under 2yr olds, Wednesdays, 10.30am, during term time only

Story Time at the Children's Library: Stories and songs for over 2yr olds, Thursdays, 2pm, during term time only

BookChat: Second Tuesday of each month, 10.30am

Library Knitters: Every Thursday from 10am onwards

Alzheimers Nelson: Free drop in sessions, fourth Wednesday of each month, 10–11.30am

Jeremy Scott – author talk: 4 March, 1pm
Duo Jackson – as part of the Live Music series: 5 March, 2pm

Stoke Library

Library Knitters: Monday afternoons, 1.30–2.30pm

BookChat: Third Wednesday of each month, 5.30pm

Small Time: Stories and songs for under 2yr olds, Tuesdays, 10.30am, during term time only

Story Time: Stories and songs for over 2yr olds, Wednesdays, 10.30am, during term time only

Alzheimers Nelson: Free drop in sessions, fourth Thursday of each month, 9.30–11am

Nightingale Library Memorial

Alzheimers Nelson: Free drop in sessions, fourth Thursday of each month, 11.30am–1pm

Museums and Galleries

Nelson Provincial Museum

Open weekdays, 10–5pm; weekends and public holidays, 10–4.30pm

Murder at Maungatapu Part Two – Trial and Executions: Until 19 March

Suter Art Gallery & Theatre

innuendo cont'd...: Until 26 February.

Katrina and Her Band of Men: 16, 17, 19, 23, 24 and 25 February

Artist floor talk and experience: 25 February

Refinery ArtSpace

Open weekdays 10am–5pm, Saturdays 11am–2pm

Magenta Summer Show: Until 25 February

HybridIdentity: Until 25 February

Changing Threads – Contemporary Fibre Arts Awards 2017: Until 25 March

CHECK OUT...

Port Nelson Community Open Day, Sunday 5 March, 1–4pm, 10 Low St, Port Nelson

Bring the entire family because there's something for all ages. What's new: Discover our 13,000m² logistics facility, view footage of Port working areas and activities, see the brand new Toi tugboat, and more. Also plenty of fun stuff including kids interactive games and prizes as well as food trucks to buy lunch and snacks – action for all ages.